

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2015-10

DATE: February 18, 2015
TO: Transportation Advisory Board
FROM: Technical Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)
SUBJECT: Program Year Extension Request: Improvements at the Intersection of CSAH 10/TH 10/CR H in Mounds View
REQUESTED ACTION: Ramsey County requests a program year extension for its Improvements at the Intersection of CSAH 10/TH 10/CR H in Mounds View (SP# 062-610-004) to 2016.
RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board approve the program year extension request to move Improvements at the Intersection of CSAH 10/TH 10/CR H in Mounds View (SP# 062-610-004) to 2016.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: Ramsey County received \$630,000 of federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding for the program year 2013. The county prepared to deliver the project in that program year. At the time, MnDOT was also developing a bridge replacement and ramp reconstruction project at the T.C. Arsenal entrance at County Road H for 2015 (#6284-162) using state funds. Due to the proximity of the project locations, a February 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment moved the County's HSIP-funded project to 2015 to coordinate with the MnDOT project.

MnDOT's project has been moved into 2016. Because the MnDOT project limits on County Road H overlap with the limits of Ramsey County's County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 10/Trunk Highway (TH) 10/County Road H intersection improvements, Ramsey County would like to delay its intersection project until 2016 so that the improvements can be designed and constructed concurrently in the MnDOT program year. This approach also provides a mechanism for MnDOT to contribute funds toward the replacement of the CSAH 10/TH 10/County Road H traffic signal, which is proposed with the Ramsey County project.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: The Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) adopted the Program Year Policy in April 2013 to assist with management and timely delivery of transportation projects awarded federal funding through the TAB's regional solicitation. The policy includes a procedure to request a one-year extension based on extenuating circumstances within certain guidelines.

While this project has not "officially" been sunset or extended, a TIP amendment did move the project from 2013 to 2015. This would involve a second delay.

The attached request includes reference to a “scope change.” The scope the MnDOT and County projects are not changing; the former is being combined with the latter. Therefore, staff feels that the scope change request process is not needed.

STAFF ANALYSIS: MnDOT State Aid staff has indicated their support for the project sponsor’s request. Based on the County’s work on the project and the nature of the delay, staff recommends approval of the program year extension to 2016. Given that this is the first time this project has gone through the program year policy and given the efficiency created by waiting for MnDOT’s project to be implemented, staff is comfortable granting this second extension. It is important to note that an extension of the program year does not guarantee federal funding will be available in that year, and the project sponsor is responsible for funding the project until federal funding becomes available. The program year change would be administered in the annual Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) update and does not require a separate TIP amendment.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: The Funding and Programming Committee unanimously recommended approval of this program year extension request at its January 15, 2015, meeting.

ROUTING

| TO | ACTION REQUESTED | DATE COMPLETED |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| TAC Funding & Programming Committee | Review & Recommend | January 15, 2015 |
| Technical Advisory Committee | Review & Recommend | February 4, 2015 |
| Transportation Advisory Board | Review & Approve | |